

## **Background Paper**

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### **Joint Unmanned Air Vehicle in Time Sensitive Operations (JUAV-TSO)**

**Purpose:** Improve tactical UAV integration into existing joint tactics, techniques and procedures that support time sensitive operations.

**Problem:** UAVs have been in the U.S. military inventory for the past few decades and Army and Navy production programs will equip the forces with large numbers of tactical UAVs in the next few years. While UAV technology has improved dramatically, the integrated tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) for UAV employment at the tactical level have remained essentially unchanged. Recent combat operations in the Balkan theater, both US and coalition, suggest an expansion of the UAV roles and missions to support time sensitive operations. In a 31 Jan 2000 report to Congress following the Kosovo conflict, the Secretary of Defense succinctly stated: "In addition, the Department needs to improve the tactics, techniques, and procedures that guide UAV employment to better integrate their operations into overall campaign plans."

All four Services have been experimenting with these UAV integrated TTPs yet, to date, no formal, common set has been created when operating jointly. Furthermore, each of these Service efforts, validated by other joint exercises and tests, have raised significant concerns with regard to command and control of these high demand UAV assets and joint airspace integration with manned fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

**Solution:** JUAV proposes to test a variety of UAV employment methods in order to determine which methods yield the most effective and efficient support to time sensitive combat operations. During the three-year testing phase, if chartered, UAV employment will be examined in three distinct levels of joint warfare -- military operations other than war, low-intensity conflict, and major regional conflict.

**Status:** In July 2000, OSD directed JUAV-TSO to conduct a one-year Joint Feasibility Study (JFS) to conclude in July 2001. The JFS purpose is to determine the necessity and feasibility of a follow-on Joint Test and Evaluation (JT&E).

#### **Current activities:**

- Determine desired customers and legacy products.
- Identify potential enhancements to current procedures.
- Develop a joint test methodology and analysis procedures, scope the joint test and produce a feasibility study report.

#### **For further information, contact:**

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